

In the United States Court of Federal Claims
OFFICE OF SPECIAL MASTERS
No. 22-0752V

KERRY ANN FLETCHER,

Petitioner,

v.

SECRETARY OF HEALTH AND
HUMAN SERVICES,

Respondent.

Chief Special Master Corcoran

Filed: September 26, 2023

Paul R. Brazil, Muller Brazil, LLP, Dresher, PA, for Petitioner.

Steven Santayana, U.S. Department of Justice, Washington, DC, for Respondent.

RULING ON ENTITLEMENT¹

On July 11, 2022, Kerry Ann Fletcher filed a petition for compensation under the National Vaccine Injury Compensation Program, 42 U.S.C. §300aa-10, *et seq.*² (the “Vaccine Act”). Petitioner alleges that she suffered a bilateral shoulder injury related to vaccine administration (“SIRVA”) resulting from a pneumococcal conjugate vaccine received in her left arm on December 7, 2020 and a tetanus diphtheria acellular pertussis (“Tdap”) vaccine received in her right arm on December 7, 2020. Petition at 1. Petitioner further alleges that the vaccines were received in the United States, her SIRVA symptoms in both shoulders persisted for more than six months, and neither Petitioner, nor any other party, has ever filed an action, or received compensation in the form of an award or

¹ Because this Ruling contains a reasoned explanation for the action taken in this case, it must be made publicly accessible and will be posted on the United States Court of Federal Claims' website, and/or at <https://www.govinfo.gov/app/collection/uscourts/national/cofc>, in accordance with the E-Government Act of 2002. 44 U.S.C. § 3501 note (2018) (Federal Management and Promotion of Electronic Government Services). **This means the Ruling will be available to anyone with access to the internet.** In accordance with Vaccine Rule 18(b), Petitioner has 14 days to identify and move to redact medical or other information, the disclosure of which would constitute an unwarranted invasion of privacy. If, upon review, I agree that the identified material fits within this definition, I will redact such material from public access.

² National Childhood Vaccine Injury Act of 1986, Pub. L. No. 99-660, 100 Stat. 3755. Hereinafter, for ease of citation, all section references to the Vaccine Act will be to the pertinent subparagraph of 42 U.S.C. § 300aa (2018).

settlement, for her vaccine-related injury. Petition at ¶¶ 1, 11-13. The case was assigned to the Special Processing Unit of the Office of Special Masters.

On September 25, 2023, Respondent filed his Rule 4(c) report in which he concedes that Petitioner is entitled to compensation in this case. Respondent's Rule 4(c) Report at 1. Specifically, Respondent agrees that "petitioner's alleged injury is consistent with SIRVA as defined by the Vaccine Injury Table. Specifically, petitioner had no history of pain, inflammation, or dysfunction in either shoulder prior to vaccination; pain occurred within 48 hours after receipt of an intramuscular vaccination; pain was limited to the shoulders in which the vaccines were administered; and no other condition or abnormality has been identified to explain petitioner's shoulder pain." *Id.* at 5. Respondent further agrees that "based on the medical records outlined [in the Rule 4(c) Report], petitioner suffered the residual effects of her condition for more than six months . . . [and] has satisfied all legal prerequisites for compensation under the Act." *Id.*

In view of Respondent's position and the evidence of record, I find that Petitioner is entitled to compensation.

IT IS SO ORDERED.

s/Brian H. Corcoran

Brian H. Corcoran
Chief Special Master